



PRINCIPALS' QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

2002-2003 School Profile

Ansgar Larsen School

HUENEME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

<http://www.huensd.k12.ca.us/index.htm>

Graciela Gandara, Principal through 2000-2003 (Retired)
Presented at the October 2003 Principals' Roundtable Webcast
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Southern California, Urban, K-5, 781 students

Percent Free/Reduced Lunch: 89%

English Learners: 76%

Demographics:

American Indian/Alaska Native	0%
Asian	0%
Pacific Islander	0%
Filipino	2%
Hispanic/Latino	95%
African American	0%
White (not Hispanic)	3%



Year	API Score
2003	661
2002	623
2001	621
2000	521
1999	500

[more API info](#)

Special Recognition

Principal named in
*Notable Latin American
Women*

Central Focuses of School Reform:

- The starting point for this school's reform work was to build a vision of excellence, then develop a comprehensive plan with the school reform goals clearly outlined. Continuous evaluation of the progress made toward reaching the goals has been essential to the school's improvement process.
- In response to the inevitable pressure placed upon teachers engaged in school reform, the teachers have been trained to see change as an ongoing event. They continue to be an integral part of the reform process.
- Because student reading performance was found to be particularly weak, teaching all students to read has become a "mission" shared by the teachers. As a result, the school has implemented a number of reading supports and interventions.

Additional Information:

- Additions to the reading program include the implementation of RESULTS Assessment throughout the school, the provision of professional development in the Dimensions of Reading, and the creation of a substantial reading/language arts instructional block.
- Teachers analyze student data using a five-step plan devised by the Literacy Team.
- Several kindergarten and first grade reading interventions now in place include the Reading Crew and ICU Reading Intensive Groups. The Reading Crew provides early intervention and small group instruction to all kindergartners. ICU Reading Intensives are four-week, in-class interventions designed to bring intermediate students to mastery in specific skill areas. The staff is now working to align the Intensives with the Houghton Mifflin reading program.
- The principal notes that “. . . the role of the principal is the most essential in school improvement. Passion, vision, and the sense of urgency in a school can only be fostered and maintained by the instructional leaders.”

Research/Resources:

- Covey, Steven R. *Seven Habits of Highly Successful People*. 1990.
- RESULTS - California Reading and Literature Project,
http://csmp.ucop.edu/crlp/regional/site_info.php?projectID=6&siteID=13. Click on “Results Online”.
- *Leading Learning Communities, Standards for What Principals Should Know and Be Able to Do*.
<http://www.naesp.org>. Click on “Resources.”

Web Links:

- [School Site Web Page](#)
- [School Site API Data](#)
- [School Site CBEDS Data](#)